

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

23. (Twice Amended) A superconducting wire comprising:
a fine line of a sintered, compact oxide superconductor
having dispersed therein particles of a solidified metallic material
filling voids in said oxide superconductor;
said fine line of oxide superconductor having an outer
coating of a conductive material comprising a metal having a melting
point higher than that of the solidified metallic material.

REMARKS

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In compliance with the requirements of the duty of disclosure, Applicant wishes to inform the Examiner that a pending European counterpart of the present application has been rejected as lacking in novelty over FR 2,615,651, which Applicant submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement on June 10, 1996. FR 2,615,651 discloses a superconducting wire having a core consisting of a superconductor material wherein the wire is surrounded by a silver sheath, and a heat treatment process. Applicant submits that Claim 23, as presently amended, is not disclosed or suggested by FR 2,615,651.

The pending claims are 1-3, 22, and 23, with claim 23 being independent. Claim 23 has been amended. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Yurek et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,545,613), and Claims 3 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yurek et al. Applicant submits